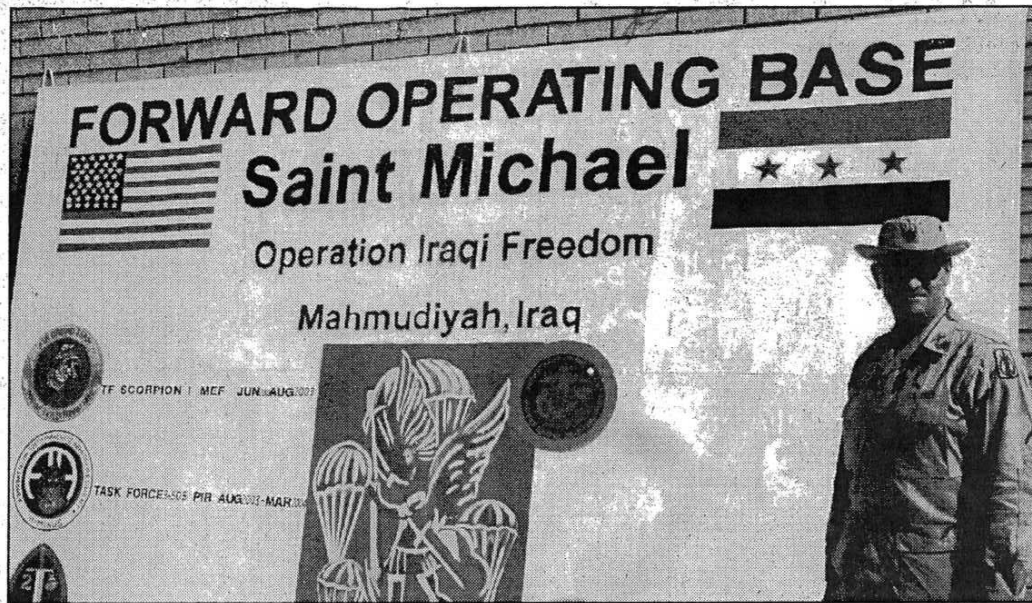


FROM THE LEXINGTON COUNTY CHRONICLE

APRIL 22, 2004



Lt. Col. Mark King visited some of his men at Camp St. Michael, Iraq. King is asking *Chronicle* readers to donate their child's old backpack for the children of Iraq.

Old backpacks for Iraqi kids

By Capt. Scott Bell

Special to the Chronicle

CSC Camp Cedar II, Iraq—The need for the most basic of educational supplies for Iraqi children is "tremendous".

Lt. Col. Mark King, commanding officer of the Lancaster based 3-178 Field Artillery Battalion, is orchestrating one of his unit's toughest challenges — a humanitarian program he calls "Old Backpack 4 Iraq."

He hopes that as parents start buying school supplies for next year, they consider sending their child's old backpack to his unit to distribute to the students in their area.

King feels that "anyone who sees conditions here can't help but be moved to do something."

King asks that parents who can afford it to please send their child's old backpack loaded with pencils, pens, 8 1/2 x 11 notebooks of ruled paper, 24-count crayons, rulers, blunt scissors, construction



Former USC quarterback Steve Taneyhill smiles with Blue Star Mothers Ann Smith, left and Ann Ricard, right, during a benefit cookout for the soldiers' support group at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon House at USC Saturday.

paper, a small teddy bear, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, band-aids, soap, washcloth, and a towel.

Donations may be mailed to

3-178 FA BN

Attn: Old Backpack 4 Iraq

CSC CAMP CEDAR II, IRAQ

APO AE 09331.

The Chronicle, April 22, 2004